(c) In order to contain the influx of urban population into big cities a centrally sponsored scheme of 'Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns' has been in operation since Sixth Five Year Plan period Under the Scheme 235 towns were covered during the sixth Plan and Central assistance of Rs. 63.57 crores disbursed

During the current five Year Plan a sum of Rs. 88 crores has been earmarked for this scheme in the Central sector. Besides this, the Industrial Dispersal Location Policy and the incentives for backward area development are also contributing to the dispersal of urban population.

There is a centrally sponsored scheme for the National Capital Region to assist dispersal of urban population. Under this scheme amounts as shown below were released upto December, 1988.

Haryana	1161.85 lakhs
Rajasthan	611.75 lakhs
Uttar Pradesh	1688.00 lakhs
	3461.60 lakhs

Brackish Water Fish Farms Development Agency in Thane

1784. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal was submitted by the Government of Maharashtra to set up a Brackish Water Fish Farms Development Agency in Thane district of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, whether some funds were sought from the Central Government for the project;

(c) whether the scheme has been approved by the central Government; and

(d) if so, the amount of assistance provided or proposed to be provided by the Central Government for the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A Brackish Water Fish Farmer's Development Agency (BFDA) for Thane district of Maharashtra has been sanctioned in December, 1988.

An amount or Rs. 1.90 lakh has been released as initial payment towards Government of India's share, in January, 1989 for the above BFDA.

Setting up Fertilizer Plants in Gulf Countries

1785. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision for the setting up of ammonia and phosphoric acid plants in Gulf countries; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) and (b) No, Sir However, Government have approved the proposal of M/s Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizer Company Ltd. (GNVFC), a company in the joint sector, for investing in the equity of a joint venture company in the U.A.E. for setting up a 500 tpd phosphoric acid plant.

Use of Pesticides

1786 SHRI N E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state whether use of Pesticides in the country is on the increase and if so, the details of Pesticides used during